Article 34 Amendment

Dated: June 1, 2005

WRITTEN AMENDMENT

(Amendment under the provision of Law Section 11)

Commissioner of the Patent Office: Mr.

1. Indication of International Application:

PCT/JP2004/011006

2. Applicant:

Appellation: TEIJIN LIMITED

Addressee: 6-7, Minamihommachi 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 541-0054 JAPAN

Nationality: JAPAN

Domicile or Residence: JAPAN

3. Representative:

Name: (9967) Patent Attorney: MIHARA, Hideko

Addressee: c/o Teijin Intellectual Property Center Limited, 1-1, Uchisaiwaicho 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0011 JAPAN

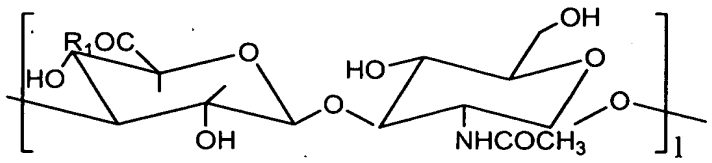
4. Subject of the Amendment:

(1) Description

(2) Claims

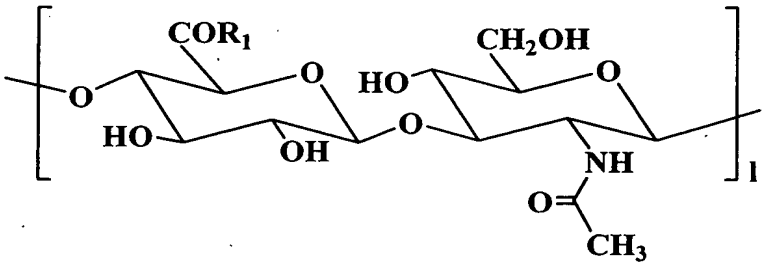
5. Contents of the Amendment:

(1) Page 4 of the description (corresponding to page 6 of the translation), amend the chemical formula (1) in the upper portion from



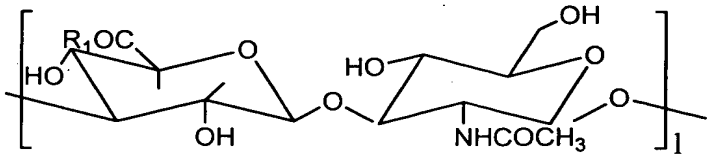
(1)

to



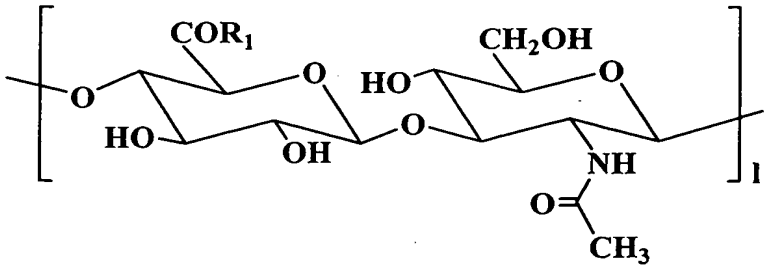
(1)

(2) Claim 1 of the claims (corresponding to page 18 of the translation), amend the chemical formula (1) from



(1)

to

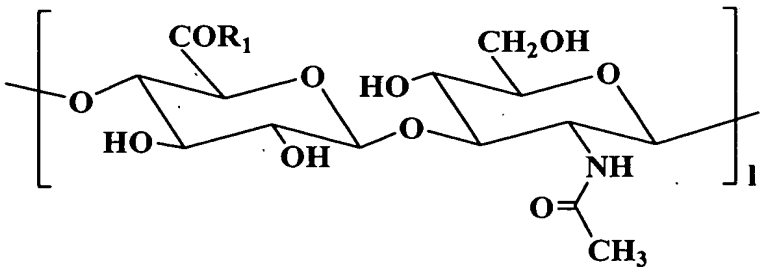


(1)

6. List of Attached Documents:

(1) Page 4 of the description (corresponding to new pages 6 to 7 of the translation) (each one copy)

(2) Page 11 of the claims (corresponding new page 18 of the translation) (each one copy)



(1)

wherein R_1 represents OH, OM (wherein M represents an alkali metal), or a residue of a polyalkylene oxide derivative which is polypropylene glycol or a copolymer of poly(propylene glycol) and poly(ethylene glycol); and l represents an integer of from 300 to 30,000.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a phase transition behavior graph of a compound in which JEFFAMINE (registered trademark) XTJ-507 is introduced in an amount of 10 equivalents in terms of hyaluron per 100 equivalents of the carboxyl group of a hyaluronic acid.

Fig. 2 is a phase transition behavior graph of a compound in which JEFFAMINE (registered trademark) XTJ-507 is introduced in an amount of 50 equivalents in terms of hyaluron per 100 equivalents of the carboxyl group of a hyaluronic acid.

Fig. 3 is a phase transition behavior graph of a compound in which JEFFAMINE (registered trademark) XTJ-507 is introduced in an amount of 100 equivalents in terms of hyaluron per 100 equivalents of the carboxyl group of a hyaluronic acid.

Fig. 4 is a phase transition behavior graph of sodium

hyaluronate.

Fig. 5 is a phase transition behavior graph of propyl hyaluronate.

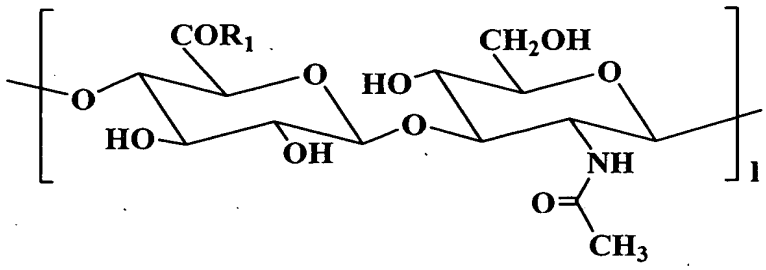
BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

The invention will be hereunder described in detail. Incidentally, these Examples and the like and the description merely exemplify the invention but do not limit the scope of the invention. Needless to say, other embodiments fall with the scope of the invention so far as they coincide with the gist of the invention.

As the hyaluronic acid which is used in the invention, both one which is extracted from animal tissues and one which is produced by a fermentation method can be used. A strain to be used in the fermentation method is a microorganism having a hyaluronic acid producing ability of the *Streptococcus* genus, and examples thereof include *Streptococcus equi* FM-100

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A compound comprising a hyaluronic acid represented by the following general formula (1) and a polyalkylene oxide derivative, wherein the content of the polyalkylene oxide derivative residue in R_1 is from 5 to 100 equivalents per 100 equivalents of the carboxyl group of the hyaluronic acid:



(1)

wherein R_1 represents OH, OM (wherein M represents an alkali metal), or a residue of a polyalkylene oxide derivative which is polypropylene glycol or a copolymer of poly(propylene glycol) and poly(ethylene glycol); and l represents an integer of from 300 to 30,000.

2. A hydrogel comprising the compound according to claim 1.